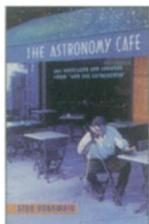


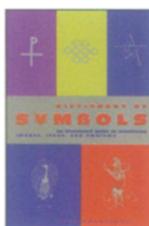
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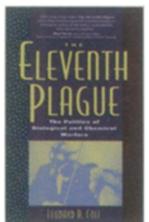
The Astronomy Cafe: 365 Questions and Answers From "Ask the Astronomer"—Sten Odenwald. Odenwald, a NASA astrophysicist, answers the questions most frequently posed about the night sky by visitors to his Web site. Organized by subject matter, this book enlightens readers about

the contents of a black hole, whether or not Earth's pole is shifting, and how stars and comets are named. The Glossary of Annoying Terms, a lexicon of the field, concludes the volume. Freeman, 1998, 252 p., color plates, paperback, \$14.95.



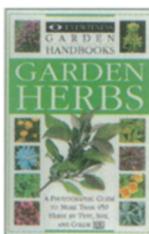
Dictionary of Symbols: An Illustrated Guide to Traditional Images, Icons, and Emblems—Jack Tresidder. Why does the crow represent death and evil in Europe but creativity in Native American cultures? How many ways can fire be interpreted? Why is the color purple associated with majesty? More than

1,000 such symbols and imagery spanning ancient through modern civilizations worldwide are presented here. Chronicle, 1998, 240 p., color illus., paperback, \$16.95.



The Eleventh Plague: The Politics of Biological and Chemical Warfare—Leonard A. Cole. In Tokyo, 5,500 people on a subway are victims of the nerve agent sarin. Residents of San Francisco fall ill after being infected by the bacterium *Serratia marcescens*. The first instance is an act of terrorism; the second

is a result of a test conducted by the U.S. Army. These are just two examples that Cole, a political scientist, presents in this examination of the threats of chemical and biological warfare. Originally published in hardcover in 1997. Freeman, 1998, 284 p., paperback, \$14.95.



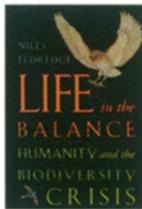
Garden Herbs: A Photographic Guide to More Than 450 Herbs by Type, Size, and Color—Deni Bown. Quick and compact, this identification guide provides a color photograph of each specimen, along with a brief description and cultivation tips. Identification information includes height, spread, native

habitat, water and soil requirements, and toxicity of the plant. DK, 1998, 176 p., color photos, paperback, \$17.95.

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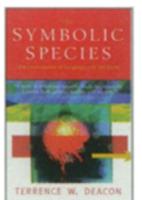
Life in the Balance: Humanity and the Biodiversity Crisis—Niles Eldredge. World-renowned as the coauthor of the theory of punctuated equilibrium, which challenges Darwin's theory of evolution, Eldredge has always been on the cusp of emerging

evolutionary and ecological trends. A current trend, he says, is the sixth extinction, brought on by human degradation of ecosystems. Eldredge accentuates the importance of biodiversity to humans as he assesses what we can do to stem the threats to biodiversity. Eloquently linking the lives of sundry creatures that rely on one another for survival, he calls for stabilizing the human population, balancing our economic needs and the requirements of healthy ecosystems, and making poorer nations economically viable. Princeton U Pr, 1998, 224 p., b&w illus., hardcover, \$24.95.



Life Signs: The Biology of Star Trek—Susan Jenkins and Robert Jenkins. Why do Vulcans have green blood? Is Commander Data alive? Is synthehol a plausible alternative to beer? A psychiatrist and a genetics researcher, both avid Trekkies, immerse

themselves in 30 years of *Star Trek* incarnations on both the small and big screens in order to apply modern science to this species of science fiction. The authors compare the fundamentals of carbon lifeforms to the feasibility of silicon-based life, analyze the aging process of humans grounded on Earth compared to both humans traveling the galaxies and extraterrestrial humanoid species, and consider romantic liaisons between different species of humanoid aliens. HarpC, 1998, 189 p., hardcover, \$22.00.



The Symbolic Species: The Co-evolution of Language and the Brain—Terrence W. Deacon. Stumped by a youngster inquiring why no simple languages exist, Deacon made use of his background in anthropology and neuroscience to seek the answer.

He argues that the changing reproductive habits of early humans necessitated a symbolic communication, and he explores the evolution of that communication. We assign symbolic import to almost every aspect of the physical world, Deacon says, and he illustrates how the grammars of the world are actually quite similar. Grammar is learned easily by young children not because language is innate, but because it has adapted to human cognitive constraints. Originally published in hardcover in 1997. Norton, 1998, 527 p., b&w illus., paperback, \$15.95.



Tangled Minds: Understanding Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementias—Muriel R. Gillick. Noting that more than 4 million people in the United States are afflicted with dementia, gerontologist Gillick asserts that it probably touches or will touch every U.S. family. Her goal is to help

readers understand how the disease progresses in the patient, how society chooses to cope with the problem, and how research is defined by the political system. Dutton, 1998, 273 p., hardcover, \$25.95.

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